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Poems

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Poems

Abstract

THE PHONEY NUDE, FLEDGELING SPOTTED PARDALOTE

James Charlton

THE PHONEY NUDE

On the swimsuits-optional beach
a Dutchman wants to show you
a dick instead of a heart.

When he says 'Nakedness is not an issue'
you know it is, or should be,
but he hasn't got the guts

to reveal anything so intimate.
With him, the fig leaf's
so firmly on the face

it might take God-knows-how-many
shape-up or ship-out relationships
with women before he really

gets undressed
and it's too late
too late.

FLEDGELING SPOTTED PARDALOTE

A tiny sampler
of delicate stitchery
hangs from a black tack
stuck in a frantic gum leaf

when along comes
this ere peaked-cap-
of-a-punter (Owz It Goin
Orright? Tha Name's Koo-
Ka-Burra)

and
unpicks
the
stitches.